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14 August 1951

Mr. William H. Jackson
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence Agency
2430 "E" Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

Thank you very much for your sympathetic understanding, encouragement and wise counsel. The restful summer following the hectic war and post-war years, provided a mid-life sabbatical with extensive reading and reflection that has been good for body and soul. The fact that you urged me to return and at the same time gave permission to look elsewhere was particularly beneficial because it enabled me to analyze my situation with a higher degree of objectivity.

Shortly after the war I had a choice of three interesting opportunities: a lucrative business position, the Republican nomination for Congress or government service in the international field. I chose the latter because it was evident that all possible skill, knowledge and leadership would be required to successfully discharge the responsibilities which America must assume. This was neither a fanatical nor romantic decision but a careful selection of an area for interesting and effective service. In the intervening years while I have improved my capabilities through experience and graduate study the international situation has become increasingly complex and difficult. Therefore, in the light of current developments my re-evaluation tends to strengthen the original conclusions.

This period of rest and reorientation has not only given me better health, greater objectivity and improved perspective but has enabled me to develop a couple of basic concepts which I hope to discuss briefly with you. They may have some bearing as to the best place for me to fit into the international field whether with CIA or elsewhere. Although it was a matter of pride and gratification to have Colonel Baird invite me to join his staff - particularly in view of my high esteem for him and the importance of his task - changes may have taken place since that time and while I should enjoy serving under him I should like to request that several other factors also be considered in my reassignment.

According to plans discussed with you in June I shall return immediately after Labor Day, full of pep and ready to tackle a man-sized job wherever my services can be used to best advantage. I am looking forward with pleasurable anticipation to a visit with you at your convenience and am enclosing a brief outline to refresh your memory regarding my background.

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